

subscribers in Cannanore and Kasargod Districts of Kerala respectively.

(b) So far 535 EPF subscribers of Cannanore and 33 of Kasargode district have received pension under the EPF & MP Act, 1952.

(c) and (d) The pension applications complete in all respects are processed and disposed of promptly. However, some times difficulties arise in speedy disposal when applications are in-complete or are not properly filled by the beneficiaries. In order to remove the difficulties of the subscribers explanatory meetings, seminars and workshops were organised in the area to educate the members to prepare the application forms correctly. Pension Adalats have also been conducted to correct the objections/anomalies in the pension applications on the spot.

Pending Reply

6212. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4416 dated September 4, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The complete details are still awaited from the State Government. The Government of J&K are being reminded regularly.

RBI Instructions Regarding Loan Interest

6213. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued directions not to take loan at the interest of high rate, the payment of which financial policies are likely to be affected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regarding rate of interest of loans to be charged by banks. RBI have reported that scheduled commercial banks are free to determine their own lending rate on their advances with credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks are required to declare a prime lending rate (PLR) which will be the

minimum rate charged by the banks for credit limit of over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks are also required to announce the maximum spread over the PLR for all advances other than consumer credit. Reserve Bank of India have in February 1997 clarified to the banks that they are allowed to prescribe PLRs and spread over PLRs separately for loan component and cash credit component with approval of their respective boards.

[Translation]

Development of Cities

6214. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the cities developed in Rajasthan during the past five years;

(b) the schemes proposed to be undertaken for the development of various cities of the State this year and funds earmarked for the purpose;

(c) whether the Rajasthan Government have submitted some proposals in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision being taken in this regard;

(e) whether the World bank is providing any financial assistance in this regard; and

(f) if so, the project-wise quantum of assistance being provided in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) Projects for integrated development of infrastructure in selected towns/cities having population upto 5 lakhs are supported under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT). During the past 5 years, 19 towns/cities in Rajasthan (mentioned in the attached statement) were covered under IDSMT and Central assistance amounting to Rs. 504.50 lakhs released to the State Government. Till December, 1996, the State Government have reported a total expenditure of Rs. 280.04 lakhs on implementing the approved projects in these towns. For 1997-98, funds have not been earmarked Statewise and the coverage of new projects under IDSMT during the current financial year will be considered after meeting the requirement for projects already covered under the Revised Scheme. During 1997-98, no project proposals under IDSMT have been received from Government of Rajasthan.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.